

## **Madison River Rulemaking Public Comment Summary (September 28-October 30)**

781 individuals provided comments, either in writing, through the internet, or at the public hearing. Multiple comments from individuals were combined and counted as a single entry here. One petition was received with 312 signers, stating their opposition to New Rule I (commercial cap at 2019 levels) and New Rule II (rest rotation). Consistent with other Fisheries efforts to summarize public comments, the opinions of the petition were recorded as a single entry for the purposes of this summary. Percentages below are calculated as the number of people supporting/opposing a particular issue relative to the total number of commenters (781).

### **Demographics of commenters**

Residency (482 self-identified)

- Comments from 33 different states
- 17.0% from Ennis, 13.5% from Bozeman, 6.0% from West Yellowstone, 32 other Montana communities reporting

Commercial status (self-identified)

- 12.4% guides or outfitters
- 1.9% fishing outfitter clients

### **Petitions**

Support FOAM petition (4.6%)

Oppose FOAM petition (4.6%)

Support Sportsmen petition (9.5%)

Oppose Sportsmen petition (6.5%)

Oppose both petitions (3.2%)

### **Commercial Caps**

NEW Rule I (commercial cap at 2019 levels)

Support (17.2%)

Oppose (6.7%)

NEW RULE VI (commercial cap at 2019 or 2020 level)

Support (6.4%)

Oppose (5.4%)

Reduce commercial use levels (4.9%)

Oppose commercial caps (3.8%)

### **Rest/rotation**

NEW RULE II (2 sections, Saturday/Sunday)

Support (13.6%)

Oppose (37.0%)

## **Walk/wade**

NEW RULE III (2 sections)

Support (12.3%)

Opposed (22.3%)

NEW RULE V (1 section)

Support (0.6%)

Opposed (9.6%)

Support for some type of boating restriction (16.9%)

Opposed to some or all types of boating restrictions (40.8%)

Support status quo (current regulations) (6.7%)

## **Limited Development on Lower River**

NEW RULE IV

Support (7.0%)

Opposed (1.2%)

## **Commercial Allocation Method**

NEW RULES VII-XV

Support (9.2%)

Opposed (6.3%)

Support one or more aspects of FOAM methodology (5.9%)

Opposed to one or more aspects of FOAM methodology (7.9%)

## **Madison River Stamp**

NEW RULE XVI

Support (4.5%)

Opposed (0.9%)